



Director of
Central
Intelligence

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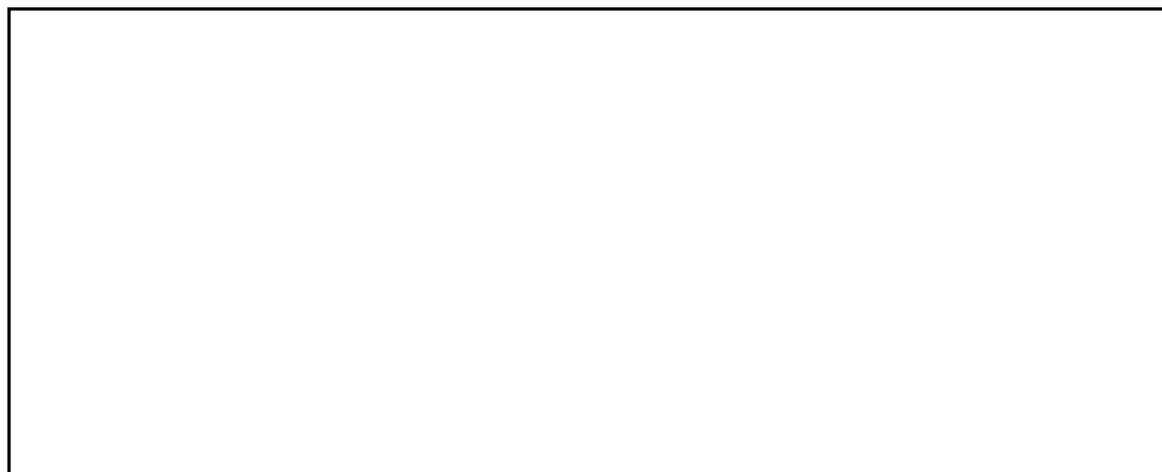
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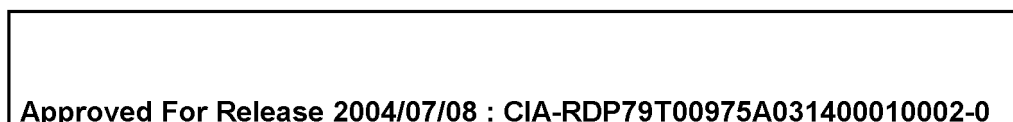
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The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the *Daily*, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.



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SOUTHERN AFRICA: Frontline Meeting

Tanzanian President Nyerere yesterday told the US and British Ambassadors in Dar es Salaam that he and Frontline Presidents Machel of Mozambique and Kaunda of Zambia had met over the weekend in Mozambique and had rejected--for the time being--a Cuban-Soviet proposal that the Patriotic Front form a provisional government to counter the black-led government that is to be installed in Rhodesia. Nyerere apparently hopes his position will discourage the US and the UK from recognizing the new regime in Salisbury.

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According to the Cuban-Soviet proposal, Joshua Nkomo of the Zimbabwe African People's Union would be president and Robert Mugabe of the Zimbabwe African National Union would be prime minister. The Frontline Presidents have been urging the guerrilla leaders to merge their organizations under a similar division of authority but seem unwilling to formalize it as a "government." Neither the Patriotic Front guerrilla leaders nor Ethiopian Chairman Mengistu, who was invited to attend a Frontline meeting for the first time, were present at the meeting.

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Nyerere told the Ambassadors that he argued against the provisional government proposal at the meeting and in subsequent talks with the Soviet Ambassador. He continues to support a negotiated settlement and believes that a provisional government would identify the Patriotic Front too closely with Moscow and Havana and thus could force the US and UK to choose between Salisbury and the Patriotic Front. Nyerere implied that he would be able to oppose the provisional government concept as long as the West refuses to recognize the government in Salisbury.

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

USSR-France

The French Ambassador in Moscow has provided the US Embassy with his government's impressions of President Brezhnev's health and performance during President Giscard's visit last week. Brezhnev appeared to have a limited attention span--a maximum of around 90 minutes--and a serious hearing problem. He offered spontaneous comments only occasionally; they were, as the French put it, "not always related to the subject at hand."

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Nicaragua

Alfonso Robelo, a leader of the Broad Opposition Front and the Nicaragua Democratic Movement, was arrested yesterday, and a colleague in the Front was arrested later. The government alleged to the US Embassy that Robelo's arrest resulted from his involvement in a plot related to the fighting that began Sunday in Leon, the country's second largest city, and to plans for disturbances and other attacks on the National Guard related to May Day labor demonstrations today. The Embassy notes that the arrest reportedly is also related to the arrest of several leftist labor leaders.

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COMMENT: *Of the country's four labor confederations, only the government-controlled one has a permit for a rally in Managua today.*

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Canada

The Liberals defeated candidates of the ruling, separatist-minded Parti Quebecois in both provincial byelections in Quebec yesterday. Liberal Party leader Claude Ryan won his contest for the province's assembly by a wide margin. [REDACTED]

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The US Embassy in Ottawa commented yesterday that the national election set for 22 May remains up for grabs, with the high probability of a minority government led by either Prime Minister Trudeau's Liberals or the Progressive Conservatives. According to the Embassy, the Progressive Conservatives appear to have the lead in Ontario, the main battleground which has just over a third of the 282 seats to be decided. Other key factors in the final weeks are likely to be the outcome of the provincial election in British Columbia on 10 May and, three days later, the national party leaders' televised debate. [REDACTED]

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Ecuador

According to press reports, parties that supported winning populist presidential candidate Jaime Roldos have won at least 40 of the 69 seats in the unicameral legislature to be installed with him on 10 August. Roldos, meanwhile, has a more than two-to-one lead over center-right candidate Sixto Duran-Ballen as the ballot counting nears completion. [REDACTED]

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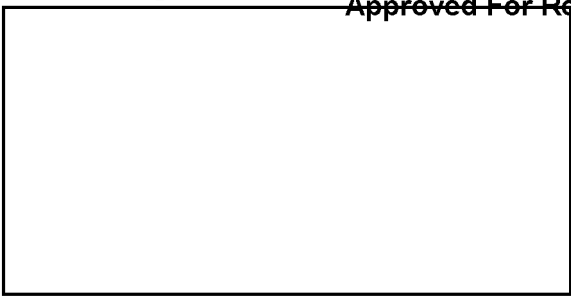
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